

II. CLAIM AMENDMENTS

1-10. (Cancelled)

11. (Previously Presented) Apparatus to bend a first and a second cross seal (1, 2) of a bag (3), made of a flexible packaging material, towards the sidewall (5) with:

first means (4) to orient the first cross seal (2) towards the sidewall (5) of the bag, before it is transferred to the turning means (7)

turning means (7) to fix and turn the bag upside down,

the turning means (7) comprising a plane (8) onto which the bag is dropped before it is fixed,

second means (6) to orient the second cross seal (1) towards the sidewall (5) of the bag after it has been turned upside down.

12. (Previously Presented) Apparatus according to claim 11, characterized in that the turning means rotate by 180° back and forth.

13. (Previously Presented) Apparatus according to claim 11, characterized in that the means (4, 6) are gas ejection means or mechanical means, preferably a plate.

14. (Previously Presented) Packaging machine (1), especially vertical-type packaging machine, for producing tubular bags (3) from a foil (9) web, characterized in that it comprises an apparatus according to claim 11.

15. (Currently Amended) Method to produce a bag (3) made of a flexible packaging material and filled with a packaging item, ~~characterized in that it is turned~~ comprising:

turning the bag while it is produced by a packaging machine;

orienting two cross seals of the bag towards a sidewall of the bag; and

bending the cross seals towards the sidewall of the bag by the weight of the packaging item ~~according to claim 14.~~

16. (Cancelled)
17. (Previously Presented) Method according to claim 16, characterized in that the shape of the bag is stabilized by the packaging item.
18. (Cancelled)